

**WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY
PUBLIC CONFERENCE CALL MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday August 17, 2004

1:00 p.m.

By telephone

On August 17, 2004, the Board of Physical Therapy met by telephone. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notices were sent to individuals requesting notification of meetings.
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MEMBERS PRESENT

SAMUEL STOCKTON, PT, CHAIR
SHAWN QUIGLEY, PT, VICE CHAIR
PAULA DILLON MAYS, PT
SU SAWYER, PUBLIC MEMBER

STAFF PRESENT

KRIS WAIDELY, PROGRAM MANAGER
MELISSA BURKE-CAIN, AAG
GAIL YU, AAG

GUESTS PRESENT

Patricia Muchmore
William Dryden

Tuesday, August 17, 2004 – 1:03 PM - OPEN SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

The August 17, 2004 conference call of the Board of Physical Therapy was called to order by Sam Stockton, PT, Chair, at 1:03 p.m.

1.1 The agenda was approved as presented.

- 2. APPROVED PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT SCHOOLS POLICY** – The Board of Physical Therapy is currently drafting rule language which defines approved physical therapist assistant schools. Currently, WAC 246-915-010(a) Definitions describes a physical therapist assistant as an individual who has successfully completed a Board approved physical therapist assistant program. The department has been receiving phone calls from individuals wanting a definition of a Board approved physical therapist assistant program. Since the WAC has not been adopted the department is unable to assist individuals with a definition of approved physical therapist assistant programs. The Board decided to create a policy to provide guidance to physical therapists who hire physical therapist assistants prior to the adoption of their WAC language. The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed Approved Physical Therapist Assistant Schools Policy. There was discussion on how the Board would review the education from military programs. The Board discussed possibly having the International Credentialing Associates, Inc. (ICA) provide a credential review for physical therapist assistants (PTA's) from military programs. On a case-by-case basis, the Board would

review the ICA report along with all of the PTA's documents to determine whether or not their military physical therapy technician program is substantially equivalent.

This policy is only provided for guidance to physical therapists who hire physical therapist assistants. Until the WAC is adopted, it is up to the hiring physical therapist to determine whether or not to hire the PTA. Once the WAC is adopted the Board will have the authority to discipline physical therapists that employ unqualified physical therapist assistants.

A motion was made to adopt this policy with the exception of changing the word "equal" to "equivalent" in both the policy and WAC language.

The motion was unanimously passed by the Board.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Kris Waidely
Program Manager

Samuel Stockton, PT, Chair
Board of Physical Therapy